

IN THE DRAWINGS

Please replace the sheets of drawings having Figs 1 and 3 with the attached sheets of replacement drawings having the following changes:

1. The axis "A" of the rack shaft is identified in Fig. 1.
2. Fig. 3 is labeled as "Prior Art."

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Figure 1 has been amended, based on the examiner's request in the interview noted below, to illustrate the rack shaft axis. Further, in response to the objection of paragraph 1, Fig. 1 has been labeled as "Prior art."

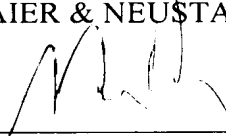
In response to paragraphs 2-3, the word "shifted" has been deleted.

Applicants note the rejections of the claims as being either anticipated or rendered obvious over the admitted prior art. Applicants wish to thank examiner Winner for the courtesy of an interview on July 17, 2006, at which time this rejection was discussed. In particular, Applicants pointed out that the "same side" limitation is in the axial direction of the rack shaft. As a result of this discussion, it was agreed that the outstanding prior art rejections would be withdrawn.

Applicants therefore believe that the present application is in a condition for allowance and respectfully solicit an early Notice of Allowability.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
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